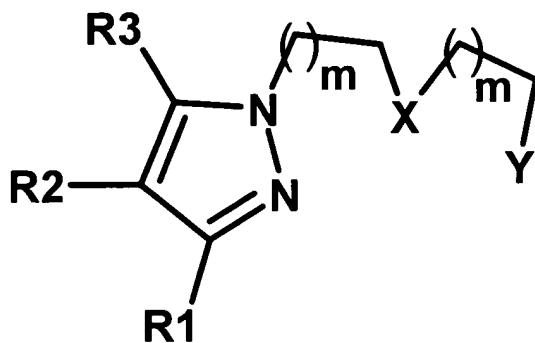


### Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

### Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) Chelating agent of the general formula:



wherein m is 0 or 1;

X is  $\text{NR}_4$  or S;

Y is  $\text{SR}_5$ ,  $\text{NHR}_5$  or  $\text{P}(\text{R}_5)_2$ ;

$\text{R}_1$  and  $\text{R}_3$  are the same or different and are selected from H, alkyl or aryl;

$\text{R}_2$  is H,  $\text{COOH}$ ,  $\text{NHR}_6$  or  $(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{COOR}_6$ ;

$\text{R}_4$  is H, alkyl, aryl,  $(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{COOR}_6$  or  $(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{OR}_6$ ;

$\text{R}_5$  is H, alkyl, aryl,  $(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{COOR}_6$  or  $(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{OR}_6$

$\text{R}_6$  is H, a biomolecule, alkyl or aryl;

n is 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 or 10; ~~and~~

~~when  $\text{R}_1 = \text{R}_3 = \text{CH}_3$ ,  $\text{R}_2$ ,  $\text{R}_4$  and  $\text{R}_5$  are not all three H.~~

2. (Original) Chelating agent as claimed in claim 1, wherein the alkyl is a  $\text{C}_1$  alkyl,  $\text{C}_2$  alkyl,  $\text{C}_3$  alkyl,  $\text{C}_4$  alkyl,  $\text{C}_5$  alkyl or  $\text{C}_6$  alkyl.

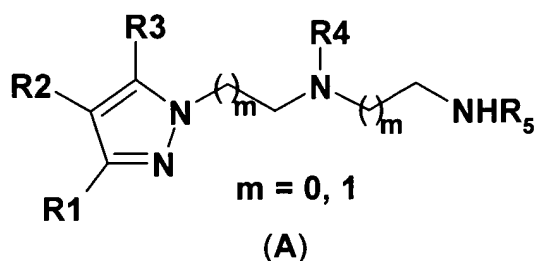
3. (Original) Chelating agent as claimed in claim 2, wherein the alkyl is methyl, ethyl, *n*-propyl, isopropyl, *n*-butyl, isobutyl, *s*-butyl, *t*-butyl, *n*-pentyl, isopentyl, neopentyl, *n*-hexyl, isohexyl (2-methylpentyl), neohexyl (2,2-dimethylbutyl), 3-methylpentyl, 2,3-dimethylbutyl.

4. (Currently Amended) Chelating agent as claimed in claim 1, wherein the aryl is monocyclic, ~~preferably phenyl or benzyl~~, or polycyclic, C<sub>10</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>, and optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from alkyl, carboxy, oxo, amino, alkoxy or and aldehyde groups.

5. (Currently Amended) Chelating agent as claimed in claim 4, wherein the aryl is phenyl or benzyl.

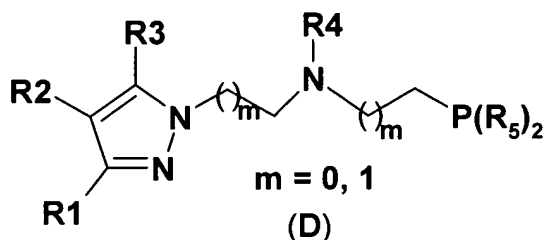
6. (Currently Amended) Chelating agent as claimed in claim 1, wherein n is 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 ~~and preferably 2, 3 or 4~~.

7. (Original) Chelating agent as claimed in claim 1, which agent is a pyrazolyl-polyamine of the general formula:



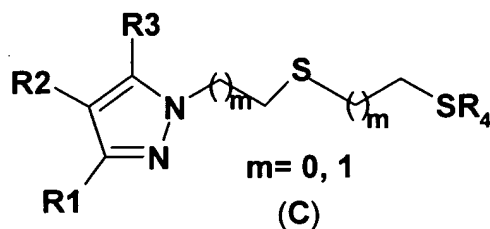
wherein R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> are as defined in claim 1.

8. (Original) Chelating agent as claimed in claim 1, which agent is a pyrazolyl-aminothioether of the general formula:



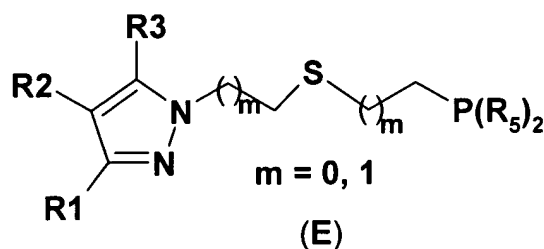
wherein R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> are as defined in claim 1.

9. (Original) Chelating agent as claimed in claim 1, which agent is a pyrazolyl-polythioether of the general formula:



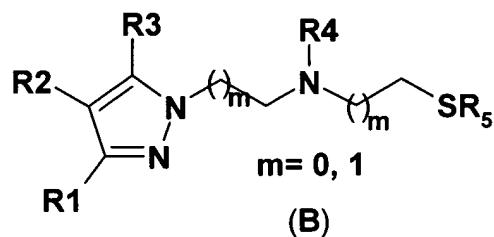
wherein  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_3$ ,  $R_4$  and  $R_5$  are as defined in claim 1.

10. (Original) Chelating agent as claimed in claim 1, which agent is a pyrazolyl-aminophosphine of the general formula:



wherein  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_3$ ,  $R_4$  and  $R_5$  are as defined in claim 1.

11. (Original) Chelating agent as claimed in claim 1, which agent is a pyrazolyl-thioetherphosphine of the general formula:



wherein  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_3$ ,  $R_4$  and  $R_5$  are as defined in claim 1.

12. (Currently Amended) Chelating agent as claimed in claim 1, wherein X and Y are N, R<sub>6</sub> is H, C<sub>1</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2</sub> alkyl, C<sub>3</sub> alkyl, C<sub>4</sub> alkyl, C<sub>5</sub> alkyl or C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, phenyl, benzyl or a biomolecule ~~and R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> are as listed in Table 1.~~

13. (Currently Amended) Chelating agent as claimed in claim 1, wherein X and Y are S, R<sub>6</sub> is H, C<sub>1</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2</sub> alkyl, C<sub>3</sub> alkyl, C<sub>4</sub> alkyl, C<sub>5</sub> alkyl or C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, phenyl, benzyl or a biomolecule ~~and R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> are as listed in Table 1.~~

14. (Currently Amended) Chelating agent as claimed in claim 1, wherein X is N<sub>1</sub> ~~and~~ Y is S, R<sub>6</sub> is H, C<sub>1</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2</sub> alkyl, C<sub>3</sub> alkyl, C<sub>4</sub> alkyl, C<sub>5</sub> alkyl or C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, phenyl, benzyl or a biomolecule ~~and R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> are as listed in Table 1.~~

15. (Currently Amended) Chelating agent as claimed in claim 1, wherein X is S<sub>1</sub> ~~and~~ Y is N, R<sub>6</sub> is H, C<sub>1</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2</sub> alkyl, C<sub>3</sub> alkyl, C<sub>4</sub> alkyl, C<sub>5</sub> alkyl or C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, phenyl, benzyl or a biomolecule ~~and R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> are as listed in Table 1.~~

16. (Currently Amended) Chelating agent as claimed in claim 1, wherein X is S<sub>1</sub> ~~and~~ Y is P(R<sub>5</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>6</sub> is H, C<sub>1</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2</sub> alkyl, C<sub>3</sub> alkyl, C<sub>4</sub> alkyl, C<sub>5</sub> alkyl or C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, phenyl, benzyl or a biomolecule ~~and R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> are as listed in Table 1.~~

17. (Currently Amended) Chelating agent as claimed in claim 1, wherein X is N<sub>1</sub> ~~and~~ Y is P(R<sub>5</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>6</sub> is H, C<sub>1</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2</sub> alkyl, C<sub>3</sub> alkyl, C<sub>4</sub> alkyl, C<sub>5</sub> alkyl or C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, phenyl, benzyl or a biomolecule ~~and R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> are as listed in Table 1.~~

18. (Original) Chelating agent as claimed in claim 1, wherein R<sub>6</sub> is a biomolecule.

19. (Currently Amended) Chelating agent as claimed in claim 18, wherein the biomolecule is selected from amino acids, peptides, proteins, oligonucleotides, polynucleotides, and sugars.

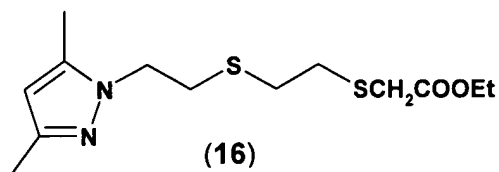
20. (Currently Amended) Chelating agent as claimed in claim 19, wherein the biomolecule is selected from the group consisting of antibodies, and ligands of tumor receptors.

21. (Original) Chelating agent as claimed in claim 19, wherein the biomolecule is selected from the group consisting of CCK, thioglucose, glucosamine, somatostatin, neurotensin, bombesin, CCK, annexin, interleukins, growth factors, steroid hormones and molecules binding to GPIIb/IIIa receptors.

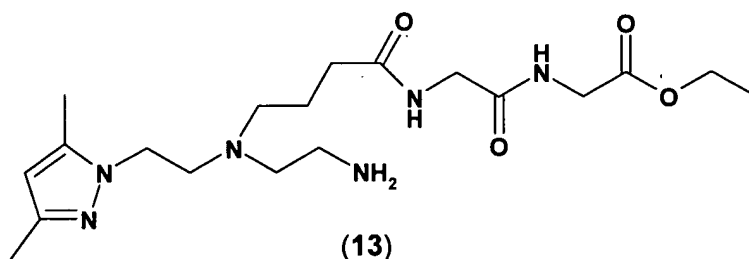
22. (Currently Amended) Chelating agent as claimed in claim 19, wherein the biomolecule is selected from the group consisting of glucose, thioglucose, and neurotransmitters.

23. (Currently Amended) Chelating agent as claimed in claim 19, wherein the biomolecule is an inhibitor of the tyrosine kinase activity, ~~such as benzothiopyranones, anilinothalimides, quinazolines, pyridopyrimidines and pyrrolopyrimidines.~~

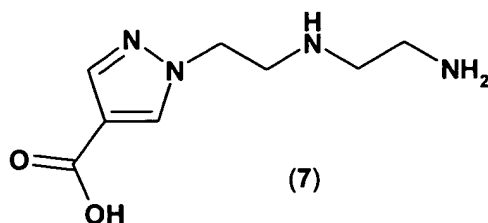
24. (Original) Chelating agent as claimed in claim 1, which agent is a compound of the following formula:



25. (Original) Chelating agent as claimed in claim 1, which agent is a compound of the following formula:

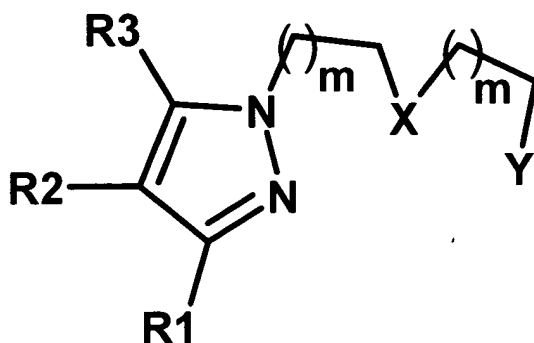


26. (Original) Chelating agent as claimed in claim 1, which agent is a compound of the following formula:



27-35. (Cancelled)

36. (New) Chelating agent of the general formula:



wherein m is 0 or 1;

X is  $\text{NR}_4$  or S;

Y is  $\text{SR}_5$ ,  $\text{NHR}_5$  or  $\text{P}(\text{R}_5)_2$ ;

$\text{R}_1$  and  $\text{R}_3$  are the same or different and are selected from H, alkyl or aryl;

$\text{R}_2$  is H,  $\text{COOH}$ ,  $\text{NHR}_6$  or  $(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{COOR}_6$ ;

$\text{R}_4$  is H, alkyl, aryl,  $(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{COOR}_6$  or  $(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{OR}_6$ ;

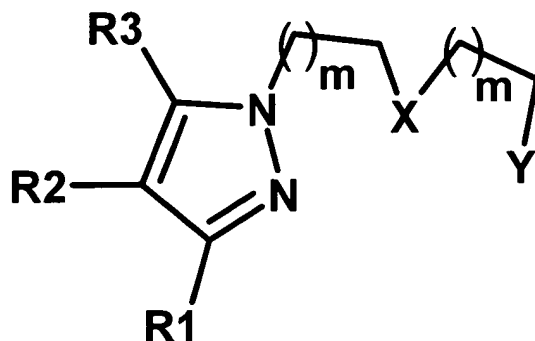
$\text{R}_5$  is H, alkyl, aryl,  $(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{COOR}_6$  or  $(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{OR}_6$ ;

$\text{R}_6$  is H, a biomolecule, alkyl or aryl;

n is 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 or 10,

wherein at least one of  $\text{R}_1$ ,  $\text{R}_3$ ,  $\text{R}_4$ ,  $\text{R}_5$ , and  $\text{R}_6$  is phenyl or benzyl.

37. (New) Chelating agent of the general formula:



wherein m is 0 or 1;

X is  $\text{NR}_4$  or S;

Y is  $\text{P}(\text{R}_5)_2$ ;

$\text{R}_1$  and  $\text{R}_3$  are the same or different and are selected from H, alkyl or aryl;

$\text{R}_2$  is H,  $\text{COOH}$ ,  $\text{NHR}_6$  or  $(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{COOR}_6$ ;

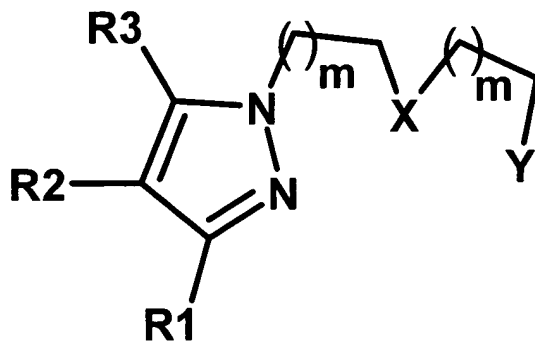
$\text{R}_4$  is H, alkyl, aryl,  $(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{COOR}_6$  or  $(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{OR}_6$ ;

$\text{R}_5$  is H, alkyl, aryl,  $(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{COOR}_6$  or  $(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{OR}_6$ ;

$\text{R}_6$  is H, a biomolecule, alkyl or aryl;

n is 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 or 10.

38. (New) Chelating agent of the general formula:



wherein m is 0 or 1;

X is  $\text{NR}_4$  or S;

Y is  $\text{SR}_5$ ,  $\text{NHR}_5$  or  $\text{P}(\text{R}_5)_2$ ;

$R_1$  and  $R_3$  are the same or different and are selected from H, alkyl or aryl,

wherein at least one of  $R_1$  and  $R_3$  is aryl;

$R_2$  is H, COOH,  $NHR_6$  or  $(CH_2)_nCOOR_6$ ;

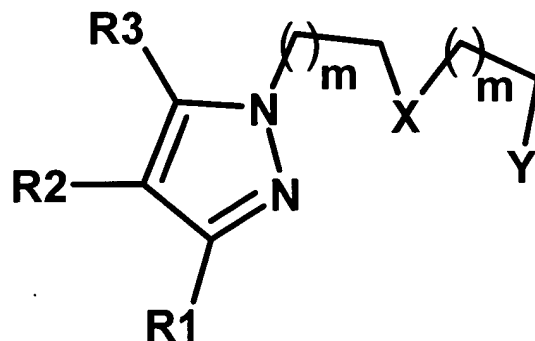
$R_4$  is H, alkyl, aryl,  $(CH_2)_nCOOR_6$  or  $(CH_2)_nOR_6$ ;

$R_5$  is H, alkyl, aryl,  $(CH_2)_nCOOR_6$  or  $(CH_2)_nOR_6$

$R_6$  is H, a biomolecule, alkyl or aryl;

$n$  is 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 or 10.

39. (New) Chelating agent of the general formula:



wherein  $m$  is 0 or 1;

$X$  is  $NR_4$ ;

$Y$  is  $SR_5$ ,  $NHR_5$  or  $P(R_5)_2$ ;

$R_1$  and  $R_3$  are the same or different and are selected from H, alkyl or aryl;

$R_2$  is H, COOH,  $NHR_6$  or  $(CH_2)_nCOOR_6$ ;

$R_4$  is aryl,  $(CH_2)_nCOOR_6$  or  $(CH_2)_nOR_6$ ;

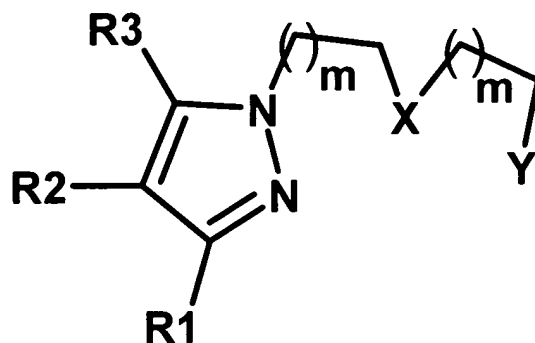
$R_5$  is H, alkyl, aryl,  $(CH_2)_nCOOR_6$  or  $(CH_2)_nOR_6$

$R_6$  is H, a biomolecule, alkyl or aryl;

$n$  is 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 or 10.



40. (New) Chelating agent of the general formula:



wherein m is 0 or 1;

X is  $NR_4$  or S;

Y is  $SR_5$ ,  $NHR_5$  or  $P(R_5)_2$ ;

$R_1$  and  $R_3$  are the same or different and are selected from H, alkyl or aryl;

$R_2$  is H, COOH,  $NHR_6$  or  $(CH_2)_nCOOR_6$ ;

$R_4$  is H, alkyl, aryl,  $(CH_2)_nCOOR_6$  or  $(CH_2)_nOR_6$ ;

$R_5$  is  $(CH_2)_nCOOR_6$  or  $(CH_2)_nOR_6$

$R_6$  is H, a biomolecule, alkyl or aryl;

n is 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 or 10.